



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

A

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/667,072	09/21/2000	Jin Soo Lee	P-128	9016
37803	7590	08/26/2005	EXAMINER	
SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD LLP 555 CALIFORNIA STREET SUITE 2000 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94104-1715			TRAN, PHILIP B	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		2155		

DATE MAILED: 08/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/667,072	LEE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Philip B. Tran	2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 July 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 13-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 13-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the amendment filed on 07/26/2005.

Claims 13, 15 and 17 have been amended. Therefore, claims 13-18 are presented for further examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary.

Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 13-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sezan et al (Hereafter, Sezan), U.S. Pat. No. 6,236,395 in view of Williams et al (Hereafter, Williams), U.S. Pat. No. 5,945,988.

Regarding claim 13, Sezan teaches a method of describing a user profile to describe user preferences pertaining to navigation of and access to multimedia contents comprising providing user preference information for the user profile, and incorporating a browsing preference information in the user preference information, wherein the browsing preference information includes a plurality of browsing criterion, which may be differently described according to a type of multimedia contents (= a user description scheme provides information regarding the user's preferences for using in combination with other description schemes to enhance ability to search and browse audiovisual information in a personalized and effective manner) [see Abstract and Col. 1, Lines 55-67 and Col. 5, Line 37 to Col. 6, Line 22 and Col. 11, Lines 7-22 and Col. 21, Line 30 to Col. 24, Line 33].

Sezan does not explicitly teach the browsing preference information includes browsing criterion such as a preference value (= a weight value) indicating relative priority assigned to each browsing criterion. Williams, in the same field of multimedia content processing and retrieval related to user's preferences endeavor, discloses the use of weight value in retrieving multimedia information related to user's preferences [see Williams, Col. 9, Line 31 to Col. 10, Line 59]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time

of the invention was made to incorporate the use of weight value in obtaining appropriate multimedia information according to user's preference, disclosed by Williams, into user-preferred application description scheme stored in the user profile disclosed by Sezan in order to indicate user preferences regarding the relative importance of that features. Thus, multimedia contents can be efficiently browsed and retrieved in priority manner based on the ranking of objects predefined by user preferences.

Regarding claim 14, Sezan further teaches the method of claim 13, wherein each of browsing criteria is structured hierarchically [see Col. 22, Line 5 to Col. 24, Line 11].

Regarding claim 15, Sezan teaches a method of describing user preference pertaining to navigation of and access to multimedia contents, comprising describing a plurality of summary preferences based on a type of multimedia contents (= a user description scheme provides information regarding the user's preferences for using in combination with other description schemes to enhance ability to search and browse audiovisual information in a personalized and effective manner) [see Abstract and Col. 1, Lines 55-67 and Col. 5, Line 37 to Col. 6, Line 22 and Col. 11, Lines 7-22 and Col. 21, Line 30 to Col. 24, Line 33].

Sezan does not explicitly teach a preference value (= a weighted value) indicating relative priority or weight for directly selecting one of the plurality of summary preferences is assigned to each of the plurality of summary preferences. Williams, in the same field of multimedia content processing and retrieval related to user's preferences endeavor, discloses the use of weight value in retrieving multimedia information related to user's preferences [see Williams, Col. 9, Line 31 to Col. 10, Line 59]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the use of weight value in obtaining appropriate multimedia information according to user's preference, disclosed by Williams, into user-preferred application description scheme stored in the user profile disclosed by Sezan in order to indicate user preferences regarding the relative importance of that features. Thus, multimedia contents can be efficiently browsed and retrieved in priority manner based on the ranking of objects predefined by user preferences.

Regarding claim 16, Sezan further teaches the method of claim 15, wherein the plurality of summary preferences is structured hierarchically [see Col. 22, Line 5 to Col. 24, Line 11].

Claims 17-18 are rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 15-16, respectively.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 13-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Other References Cited

5. The following references cited by the examiner but not relied upon are considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- A) Sahai et al, U.S. Pat. No. 6,594,699.
- B) Liebenow, U.S. Pat. No. 6,530,083.

6. A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. FAILURE TO RESPOND WITHIN THE PERIOD FOR RESPONSE WILL CAUSE THE APPLICATION TO BECOME ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). EXTENSIONS OF TIME MAY BE OBTAINED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF 37 CAR 1.136(A).

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-3991. The Group fax phone number is (571) 273-8300. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar, can be reached on (571) 272-4006.

8. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Philip Tran
Philip B. Tran
Art Unit 2155
August 19, 2005